

Patchwork 3: This I Believe

Hung Hsi Chien (13)

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A sense of guilty instantly engulfed me as soon as I realised how mean I was to not give up my seat on public transport for the needed immediately. Honestly, I was waiting for a kind somebody else to do it, yet, that maybe what the others were hoping too. Even so, I still believe in kindness that comes from the bottom of one's heart.

I believe kindness is caring, loving others more than they deserved; kindness can even be as small as a smile, an attitude that lifts another person. It is a source of joy no matter the act of kindness is carried out by him or for him. Whenever I look back, one of the main motives that drove me into helping out the teachers in primary school was the sense of accomplishment behind every appreciation, of which fulfilled my emotional soul.

"Let no one ever come to you without leaving better and happier", said Mother Teresa. Last year, I experienced personally how a small act of kindness could make a difference in me. That was my first performance of lion dance in life, I was so nervous that I could literally feel the butterflies in my stomach, banging and scratching my stomach wall. As the performance was about to begin, I suddenly feel the urge to get myself off the backstage.

"Don't worry, just do your best!" the team leader tapped on my shoulder from behind, giving me an ensuring smile, which made me a little guilty for not being as good as she expected but at least gave me the courage to carry on.

Kindness, it goes further than that thought. A very typical yet true example will be parents. As I grow older, I realised how much love it takes for my parents to reprimand me, the more they scold, the more they care for me. This is what I consider as a form of kindness too, although I may not "leave better and happier", there's a lot of things I benefited from it.

I have always wondered if only actions like good deeds are considered kindness. However, as I grow older, I gained a broader perspective on it.

According to the Talmud, "the highest form of wisdom is kindness." I totally

agree with him after I realized how much it takes to be kind. Acquiring the wisdom of kindness is a lifelong lesson, being sensitive to other's feeling is one of them.

In a relationship, I never believe in quarreling or conflict. It is my personal principle to avoid hurting others in anyway as much as possible. Sometimes, if necessary, I will tell white lies instead of being truthful so as to protect the relationship.

This is what I believe.